

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/479,031

Examiner

Thomas K. Pham

Applicant(s)

GRANT ET AL.

Art Unit

2121

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed 04/02/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 129, 133-146 and 150-171.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Reasons for Allowance

1. Claims 129, 133-146, and 150-171 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

While Smith (U.S. Patent No. 7,107,072) discloses an interface module for coupling to an interface on a portable phone that facilitates direct portable telephone/portable computer coupling. However, Smith does not teach an interface attachable to a handheld computer device and couplable with at least one attachable sensor, the at least one attachable sensor to perform data acquisition when attached to the hardware interface and be programmable by the handheld computer device; and other limitations related to these features in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention.

Wojciechowski et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,873,990) discloses a microprocessor based instrument designed to conveniently and rapidly measure various analytes in environmental and biological samples. The instrument include an attachable sensor strip for measuring various analytes. However, Wojciechowski et al. does not teach an interface attachable to a handheld computer device and couplable with at least one attachable sensor, the at least one attachable sensor to perform data acquisition when attached to the hardware interface and be programmable by the handheld computer device; and other limitations related to these features in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention.

And Masuyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,375,572) discloses a portable game apparatus includes an couplable cartridge incorporating a game program. The cartridge further incorporate an acceleration sensor for detecting movement and tilt of the portable game apparatus. However, Masuyama et al. does not teach an interface attachable to a handheld computer device and

Art Unit: 2121

couplable with at least one attachable sensor, the at least one attachable sensor to perform data acquisition when attached to the hardware interface and be programmable by the handheld computer device

The prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in conjunction with all the other claimed limitations, a handheld computer device having all the claimed features of applicant's instant invention, specifically including: an interface attachable to a handheld computer device and couplable with at least one attachable sensor, the at least one attachable sensor to perform data acquisition when attached to the hardware interface and be programmable by the handheld computer device, etc., as set forth in the claims.

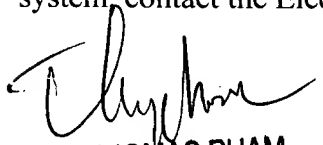
Also, there is no motivation to combine the references to meet these limitations. It is for these reasons that applicant's invention defines over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2121

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner *Thomas Pham*; whose telephone number is (571) 272-3689, Monday to Friday from 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM EST or contact Supervisor *Mr. Anthony Knight* at (571) 272-3687.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



THOMAS PHAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

May 4, 2007